

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of communicating information to a human user, comprising:
 - providing the information in groups; and
 - sending at least one group of the information as a voice transmission with a tonality unique to the at least one group that distinguishes the at least one group from others of the groups.
2. The method of claim 1, including:
 - providing a tonality fundamental pitch that is unique for each of the groups.
3. The method of claim 1, including:
 - preceding successive groups of the information respectively by a tone unique to each group, with the tones of the groups being a musical progression of tones of a musical key; and
 - starting the musical progression with the tonic tone of the musical key.
4. The method of claim 3, including:
 - ascending frequency of the tones that are unique to the groups in one direction of a hierarchy of the groups and descending frequency of the tones that are unique to the groups in the other direction of the hierarchy.
5. The method of claim 4, employed as an interactive voice recognition (IVR), including:
 - receiving and recognizing user tone commands for navigation of the groups of the information.
6. The method of claim 4, employed as a voice user interface (VUI), including:
 - receiving and recognizing user voice commands for navigation of the groups of the information.
7. The method of claim 3, employed as a voice user interface (VUI), including:
 - receiving and recognizing user voice commands for navigation of the groups of the information.

8. The method of claim 3, employed as an interactive voice recognition (IVR), including:
receiving and recognizing user tone commands for navigation of the groups of the information.

9. An information system, comprising:
storage having information retrievable in groups, each group corresponding to one of words and syllables; and
means for sending, to a human, each of the groups of the information as a voice transmission preceded by a unique tone of a musical key that distinguishes each group from others of the groups.

10. The system of claim 9, further including:
means for responding to and recognizing user commands for navigation of the groups of the information; and
said means for receiving and recognizing together with said means for sending form a two way user interface.

11. The system of claim 10, further including:
means for providing the tones of successive groups as a musical progression in the musical key from the tonic tone of the musical key.

12. The system of claim 9, further including:
means for providing the tones of successive groups as a musical progression in the musical key from the tonic tone of the musical key.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein:
successive tones of each musical progression of tones ascend in pitch in one direction of a hierarchy of the groups and descend in pitch in the other direction of the hierarchy.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein:
the musical progression of tones is the I, IV, V musical progression in the musical key.

15. The system of claim 14, further including:

means for responding to and recognizing user voice commands for navigation of the groups of the information; and wherein

said means for responding to and recognizing together with said means for sending are for a two way voice user interface (VUI).

16. The system of claim 11, further including:

means for responding to and recognizing user commands for navigation of the groups of the information; and wherein

said means for responding to and recognizing together with said means for sending are for a two-way user interface.

17. The system of claim 12, further including:

means for responding to and recognizing user commands for navigation of the groups of the information; and wherein

said means for responding to and recognizing together with said means for sending are for a two-way user interface.

18. The system of claim 13, further including:

means for responding to and recognizing user voice commands for navigation of the groups of the information; and wherein

said means for responding to and recognizing together with said means for sending are for a two-way user interface.

19. An information system, comprising:

storage having information retrievable in groups, each group comprising sets of information units that correspond to one of words and syllables;

an interface for voice transmitting each group preceded by a unique tone, which tones are in a single musical key, so that the tones distinguish each group from the other groups to a human; and

whereby the unique tones provide a human user navigation aid to identify the group to which the units belongs.

20. The information system of claim 19, further comprising:

an input to receive user commands; and

an analyzer and command recognizer connected to receive user commands input and issue corresponding system commands.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein:

successive tones form a musical progression of the tones that ascends in pitch in one direction of a hierarchy of the groups and descend in pitch in the other direction of the hierarchy of the groups.

22. The information system of claim 21, further comprising:

an input to receive user commands; and
an analyzer and command recognizer connected to receive user commands input and issue corresponding system commands.

23. The information system of claim 21, further comprising:

a VUI input to receive user voice commands; and
a voice analyzer and command recognizer connected to receive user voice commands from said VUI input and issue corresponding system commands.